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ABSTRACT

This report, required by the Oregon legislature, describes the state's Head Start prekindergarten program and the program's achievements during the 2001-2003 period. The report delineates the federal and state funding for the program during this period, and the number of programs, classrooms, and children served, noting that 61 percent of all eligible children are served, a considerable increase from the 5 percent served in 1988. A pie chart depicts the average cost per child/family for child health services, family services, and child services. The report also summarizes information on risk characteristics of many of the children and families served, emphasizing that Head Start prekindergarten family income eligibility levels are lower than the federal eligibility level for free/reduced lunch in public schools and that more than two-thirds of Head Start prekindergarten families are employed, participate in training programs, or attend school. Information is then presented on the following characteristics of Head Start children/families in Oregon: (1) ethnicity; (2) children's dominant language; (3) child health screening results; and (4) child disabilities incidence. Findings of the 2002 Oregon Kindergarten Readiness Survey are presented to illustrate how well the Head Start prekindergarten is meeting its goal of preparing children to enter kindergarten comparable to their peers. Findings from the national Family and Child Experiences Survey are then presented to show Head Start's effectiveness in improving disadvantaged children's literacy and social skills. The report concludes by outlining a long-range plan for the Oregon Head Start prekindergarten program, noting that the state's current budget shortfall does not allow for state expansion in 2003-2005, and identifying possible program economies while maintaining program quality. A map showing the locations of the state and federally funded Head Start prekindergarten programs in Oregon completes the report. (KB)

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ED 475 630

Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten

INVESTING in OREGON'S FUTURE

Report to Oregon's Seventy-Second Legislative Assembly

ORS 329.165

Oregon Department of Education
Department of Community Colleges
And Workforce Development

PS 031207

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Fifteen years ago, Oregon made a promise to its most vulnerable low-income children. The promise was to support their families with quality comprehensive services in - education, child health, parent involvement, disabilities, community partnerships – to prepare these children for school and give them a head start in breaking the cycle of poverty.

OREGON'S

INVESTMENT

in the

FUTURE

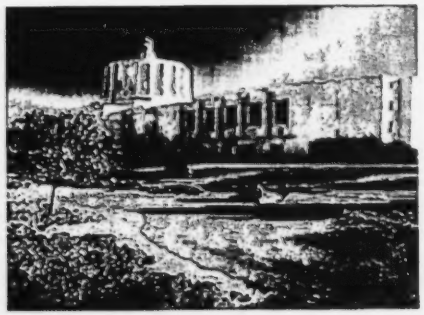
makes

PROGRESS

More than **EIGHTY THOUSAND** children have benefited. **In 1988, 5%** of Oregon's eligible 3-4 year olds were served. **In 2001-03,** we are serving **61%.** There are approximately **6,212** eligible children still unserved. Our investment is critical to Oregon's future.

OREGON HEAD START PREKINDERGARTEN

Two Funding Streams – One Program



OREGON

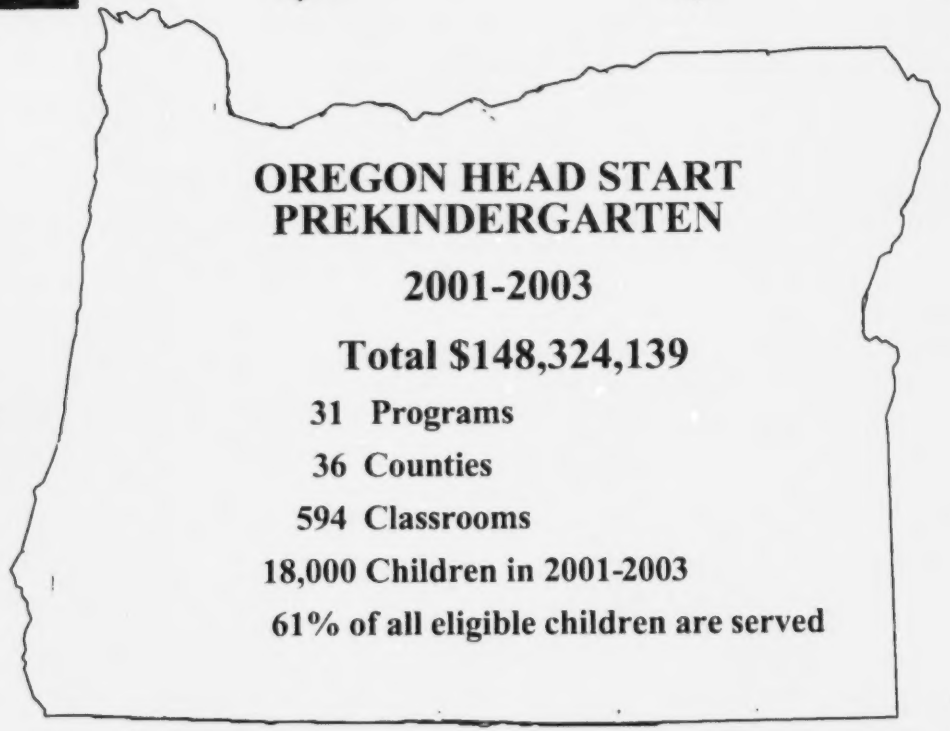
2001-2003

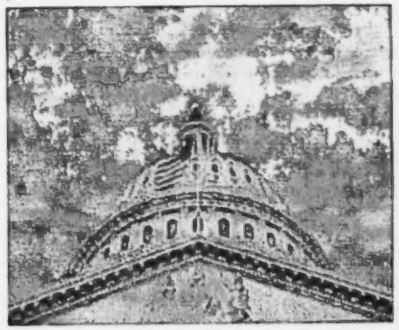
$55,244,351

(after reductions)

7,546 Children

(42%)





FEDERAL

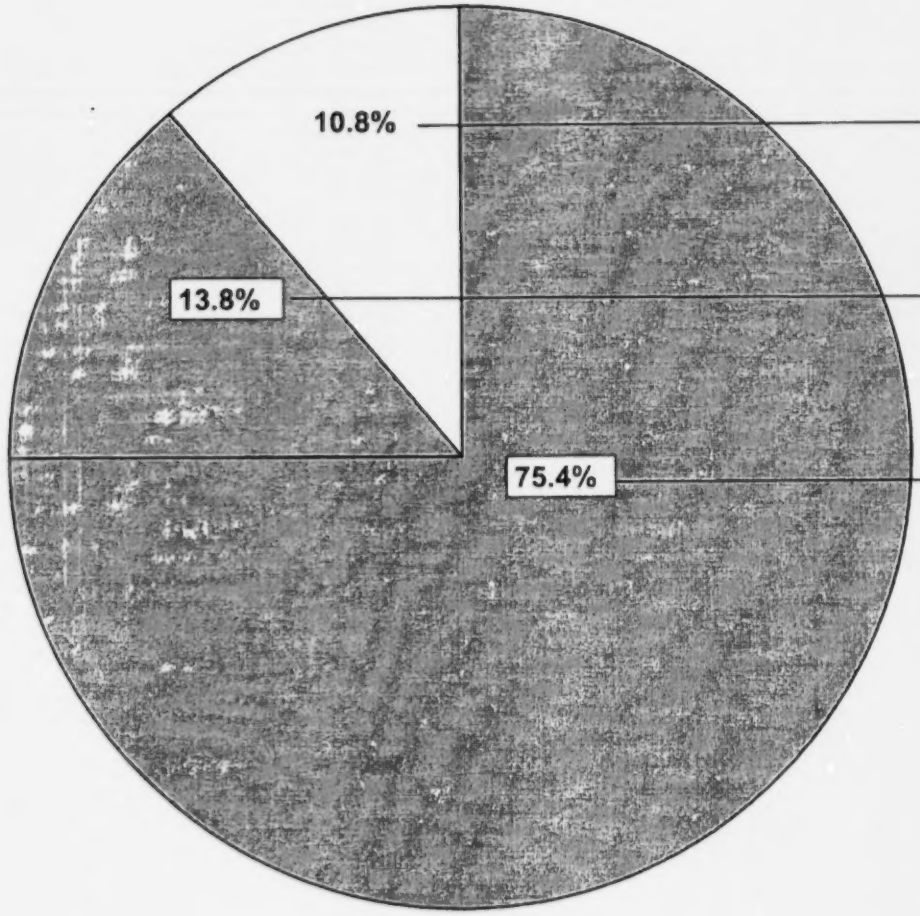
2001-2003

$93,079,788

10,454 Children

(58%)

Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten
INVESTMENT PROSPECTUS
Based on National Head Start Component Percentages
2001-03 Oregon Average Cost per Child/Family: $7,716



Child Health Services	$833
Medical	
Dental	
Mental	
Nutrition	
Family Services	$ 1,065
Parenting Education	
Family Goal Setting	
Referral and Follow-up	
Child Services	$5,818
Education	
Disabilities	
Transportation	
Facilities	-
TOTAL	$7,716

*Disability Services: Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten reserves 10% of total enrollment for children with disabilities. Additional services are accessed through the Oregon Department of Education's Regional Early Childhood Special Education program on an as-needed basis. 80-85% of total funds cover personnel costs, salary, and fringe. National percentages from Pelavin Research Center, Washington, DC 8/29/00

Anita McClanahan, Director
Early Childhood Programs

Oregon Department Of Education
OREGON HEAD START PREKINDERGARTEN

CHILD-FAMILY CHARACTERISTICS

CONTACTS:
Anita McClanahan (503) 378-3600 ext. 2600
Dell Ford (503) 378-3600 ext. 2601

> ***"Target services and resources at those who are most at risk and for which there will be a measurable return. Reinvest the savings in further prevention."***
>
> Oregon's Social Support System
> Early Childhood Home Visitor Work Group
> Report to the Governor

This summary report gathers relevant information describing "risk" characteristics of many of the children and families served by the Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten programs. In addition to preschool education services for children, Oregon Head Start PreK provides health and family services where appropriate. For families with health and other issues that need professional services, referral and follow-up to community resources are made ensuring needed treatment and ongoing services are provided. Statistical data included in this summary was gathered from the 1999-2000, 2000-2001, and 2001-2002 *Program Information Reports (PIR)* provided by local Oregon Head Start PreK programs at the end of each school year.

SERVICE TO LOWEST INCOME / HIGHEST NEED CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten provides comprehensive preschool education and family support services. Oregon's lowest income, highest need 3- and 4-year old children and their families are eligible for the program.

Families having incomes at or below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible. For example, in 2003 a family of four could not earn more than $18,400. In 2001, when the federal poverty level for a family of four was $18,100, 77% of Head Start families made less than $15,000 per year.

In addition to income, "family need" is assessed through a priority rating process developed by local programs. Risk factors included in this fact sheet are selected examples of rating priorities.

Families participate in the program on a voluntary basis. Parents enroll because they want their children to have high quality preschool education services that will prepare them for school. Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten programs serve 9,740 children and families and are funded with state and federal dollars. **Currently there are approximately 6,212 unserved children and families who are eligible for the program.** Most Oregon Head Start Prekindergartens have long waiting lists of eligible children and families.

FAMILY INCOME

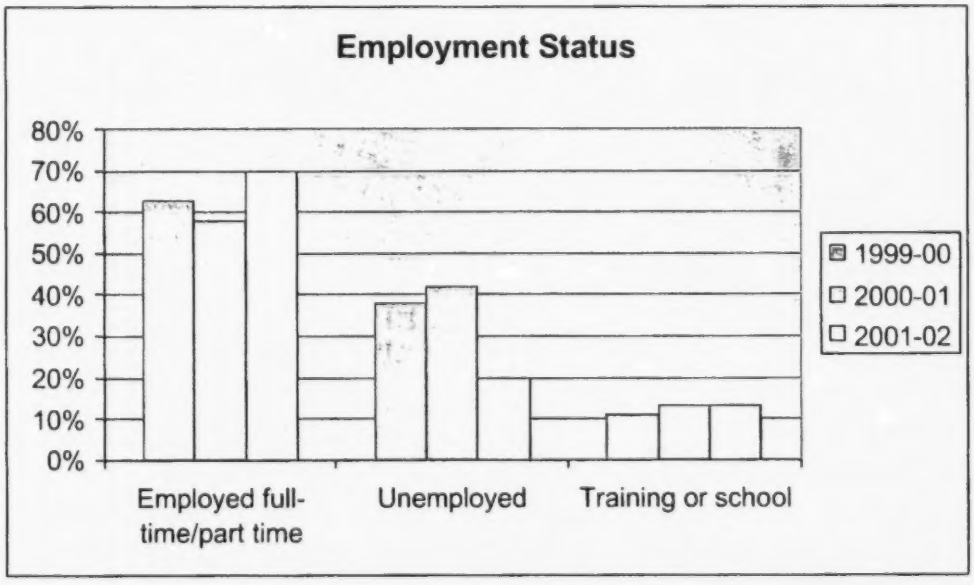
Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten eligibility is lower than federal eligibility for free and reduced lunch in public schools. The family income for a child who qualifies for free lunch in public schools may be too high to qualify for enrollment in a Head Start PreKindergarten program.

Federal Poverty Guidelines for 2002:

- A **family of four** is eligible for **Oregon Head Start PreKindergarten** at an annual income of no more than **$18,100.**
- A **family of four** is eligible for **free lunch** at an annual income of no more than **$22,945.**
- A **family of four** is eligible for **reduced lunch** at an annual income of no more than **$32,653.**

FAMILY EMPLOYMENT

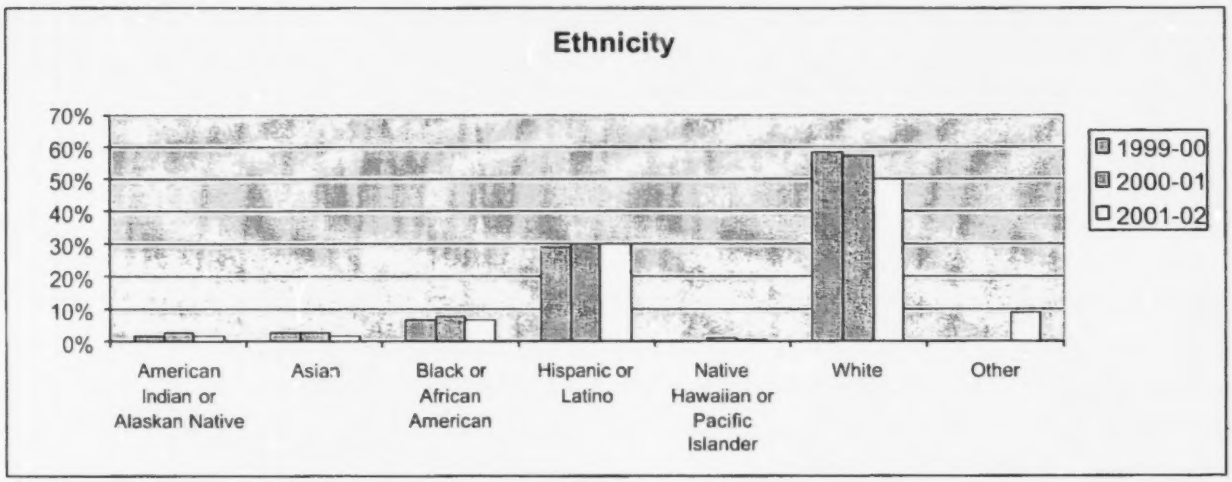
More than two-thirds of Head Start PreK families are employed part-time or full time, participate in training programs and/or attend school.



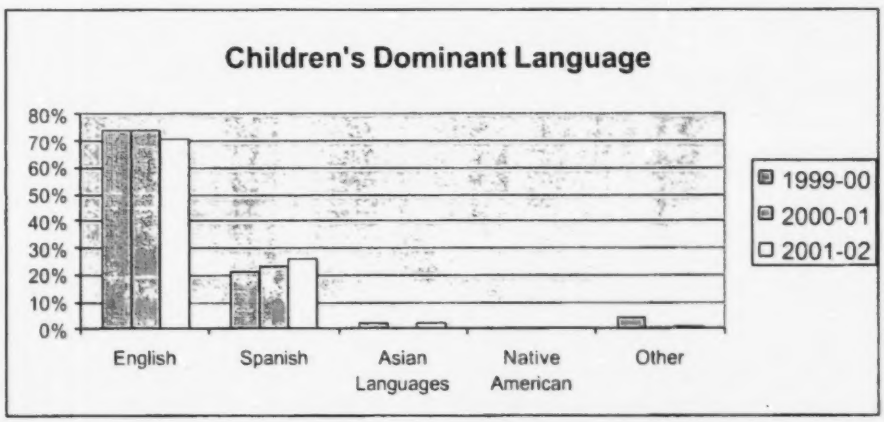
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Employed full-time/part time	63%	58%	70%
Unemployed	38%	42%	20%
Training or school	11%	13%	13%

FAMILY ETHNICITY

Oregon Head Start PreKindergarten programs serve multiple ethnic populations reflective of state demographics.



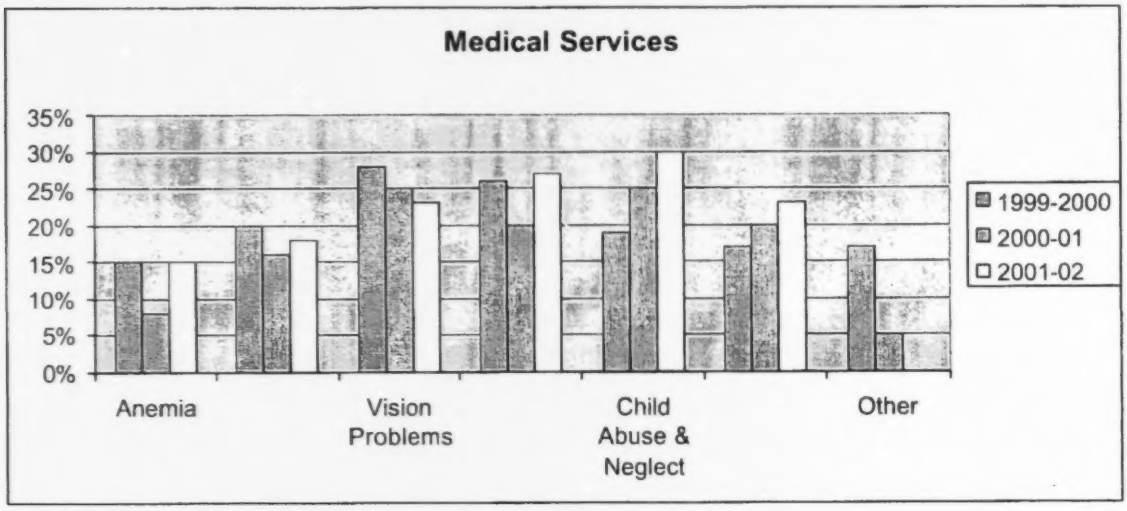
	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2%	3%	2%
Asian	3%	3%	2%
Black or African American	7%	8%	7%
Hispanic or Latino	29%	30%	30%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	.01%	0.4%
White	58%	57%	50%
Other	N/A%	N/A%	9%



	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
English	74%	74%	71%
Spanish	21%	23%	26%
Asian Languages	2%	.02%	2%
Native American	0.1%	.01%	0%
Other	4%	.03%	1%

CHILD HEALTH

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Children who completed medical screening	74%	73%	76%
Children completing medical screening diagnosed as needing treatment	29%	35%	27%
Children diagnosed as needing treatment who received treatment	78%	82%	84%



	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
Anemia	15%	8%	15%
Hearing Difficulties	20%	16%	18%
Vision Problems	28%	25%	23%
Asthma	26%	20%	27%
Child Abuse & Neglect	19%	25%	30%
Overweight	17%	20%	23%
Other (sickle cell, high lead levels, diabetes, seizure underweight, HIV/AIDS and low birth weight)	17%	5.1%	N/A

Dental Services

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Children who completed a dental exam	71%	72%	70%
Children completing dental a dental exam diagnosed as needing treatment	39%	49%	41%
Children diagnosed as needing treatment who received treatment	75%	64%	71%

Drugs/Alcohol

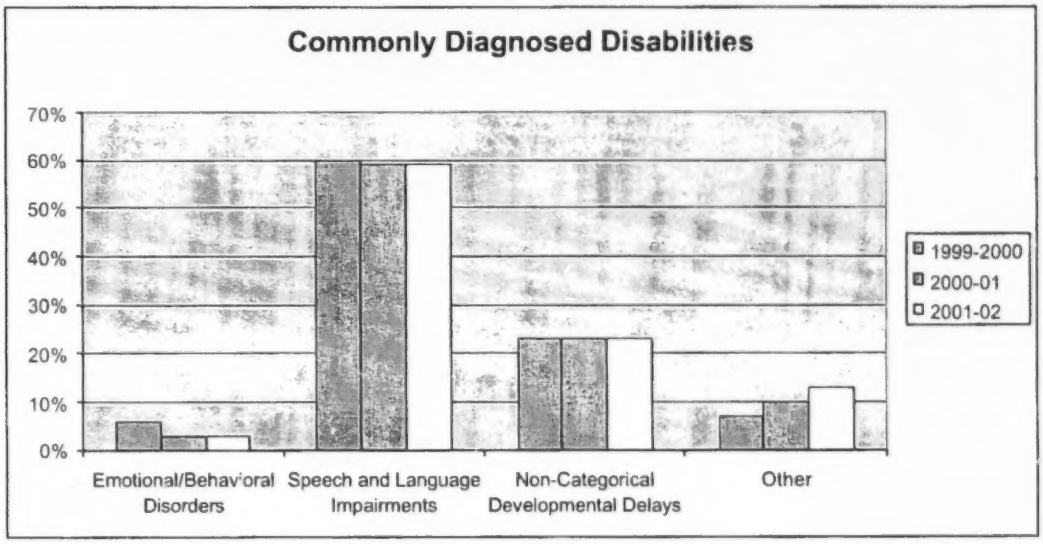
	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Children prenatally exposed to drugs/alcohol	14%	12%	8.7%

Homeless

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Children who are homeless	5%	5%	6%

CHILD DISABILITIES

	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Children identified with a disability	16%	16%	17%

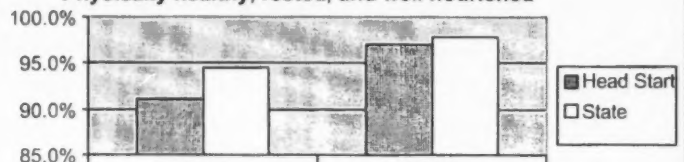


	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
Emotional/Behavioral Disorders	6%	3%	3%
Speech and Language Impairments	60%	59%	59%
Non-Categorical Developmental Delays	23%	23%	23%
Other (health impairment, mental retardation, hearing impairment including deafness, orthopedic, visual including blindness, learning disabilities, autism, traumatic brain injury, multiple disabilities including deaf/blind)	7%	10%	13%

Head Start Students Score High on Three Critical Readiness Dimensions

In the 2002 Oregon Kindergarten Readiness Survey, Head Start students scored big on three major dimensions. The impact for children served in Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten is significant. Head Start's goal of preparing children to enter kindergarten comparable to their peers is being achieved.

PHYSICAL WELL-BEING:
Physically healthy, rested, and well nourished



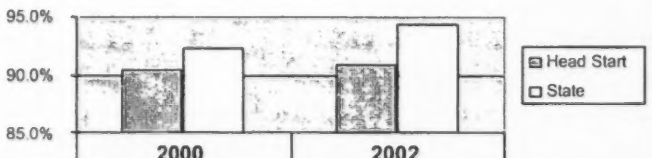
	2000	2002
Head Start	91.2%	97.0%
State	94.5%	97.8%

LANGUAGE USAGE:
Communicates needs, wants, and thoughts verbally (in child's primary language)

	2000	2002
Head Start	83.9%	88.5%
State	89.5%	91.6%

APPROACH TO LEARNING:

Enthusiastic and curious in aproaching new activities



	2000	2002
Head Start	90.3%	90.8%
State	92.4%	94.3%

KEY EVALUATION FINDINGS

Head Start is one of the most successful early childhood programs in America. As our state's premier early childhood education program, Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten is helping approximately 61% of Oregon's most disadvantaged children enter school "Ready To Learn." National and state studies indicate that Head Start narrows the school readiness gap between disadvantaged children and their peers.

The Family and Child Experiences Survey (FACES)

The FACES evaluation is an integral part of Head Start's system of program performance accountability. The FACES project began in the spring of 1997 and is ongoing. This study provides data indicating Head Start's success and identifies areas for improvement.

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the FACES study collects data annually on a nationally representative sample of Head Start programs, classrooms, teachers, parents and children. The study examines the quality and effect of Head Start.

FACES answers the question: Does Head Start enhance children's development and school readiness?

Study results showed that Head Start:

- Narrows the gaps between disadvantaged children and all children in vocabulary and writing skills during the Head Start year;
- Improves the social skills of Head Start children; and
- Leads to continued improvements in word knowledge, letter recognition, math skills and writing skills by Head Start children relative to other children during the kindergarten year.

Areas for improvement identified in the study included:

- Letter recognition; and
- Book and print concepts

Key steps have been taken to address these areas and include an early literacy initiative as well as additional funds to support improvement in teacher credentials. These steps have as their primary outcome improving teaching, learning and assessment in the areas of language development, literacy, and numeracy (children's understanding of number concept).

STEPS TOWARD THE FUTURE

OREGON HEAD START PREKINDERGRTEN CHILDREN ARE

READY FOR SCHOOL

RECOGNIZE letters and words

WRITE letters

SHOW familiarity with storybooks, understanding of print and comprehension of stories

COUNT and solve simple number problems

DEMONSTRATE social/emotional competence

FACES: The Family and Child Experiences Survey
National Head Start Study

Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten
Investing in Oregon's Children

Long-Range Plan

July 2003 – June 2005

Guiding Principles:

- Maintain Quality Programs within the required Performance Standards
- Adhere to Performance Standards and income eligibility
- Maximize state and federal resources to serve the maximum number of children
- Maintain and build upon existing federal/state partnership

July 2003 – June 2005 Serve maximum number of children and maintain program Standards

Children Served by federal HS*	Children Served by OR HS PreK**	Total Served	Percent Served	Oregon Cost
10,454	6,692	17,146	56.2	$53.5million

**Federal Head Start*
***Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten*

July 2003 – June 2005

Expansion Plan

Oregon's current budget shortfall does not allow for state expansion in 2003-2005. The federal Head Start is not anticipating any expansion funds for 2003-2004. If there are additional federal dollars available for expansion in 2004-2005, Oregon will work with federal partners to secure funds for Oregon.

Next Steps: Considerations for Possible Economies While Maintaining Program Quality

Work in partnership with Region X federal office to:

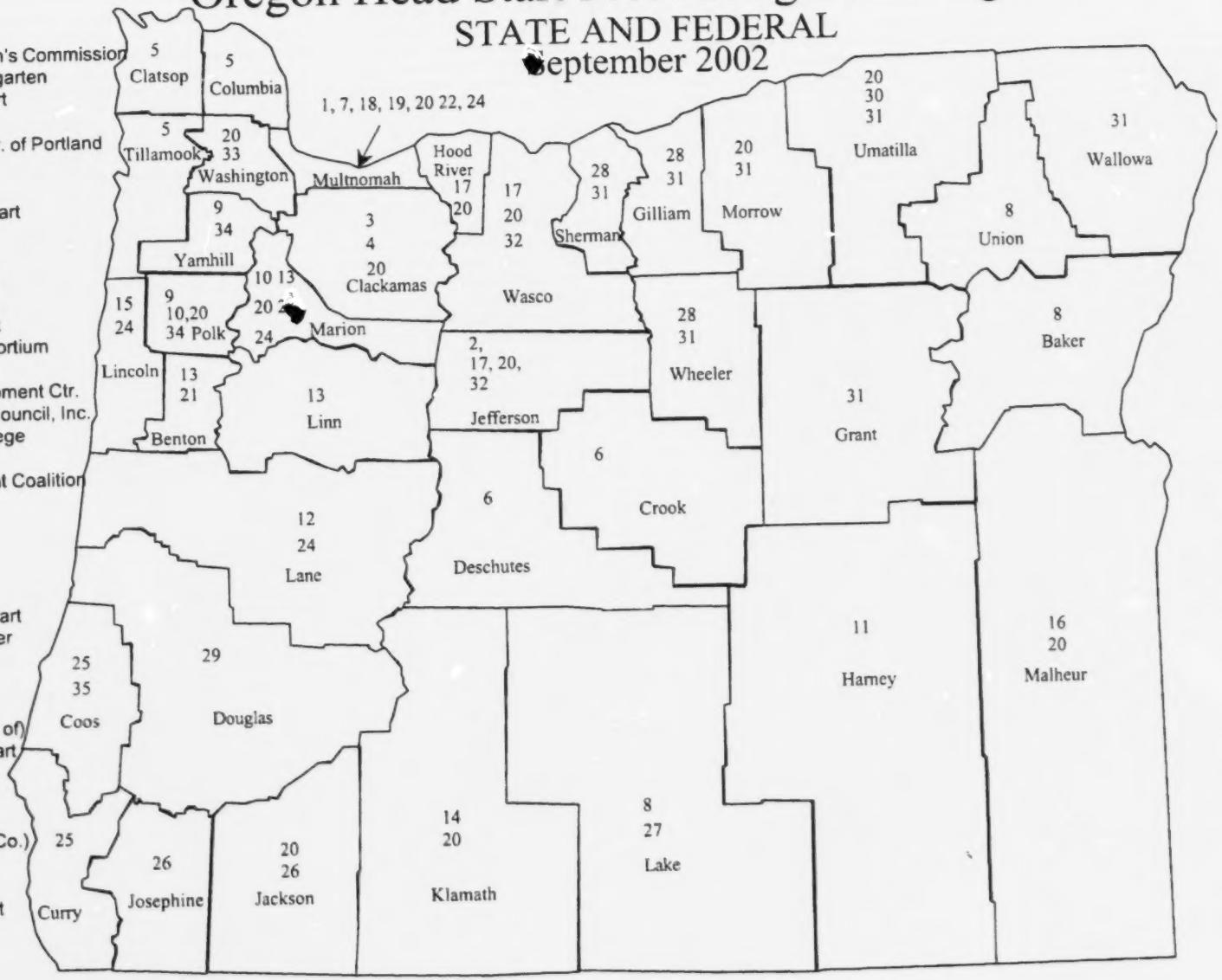
- Review all program costs
- Look for ways to maximize state/federal dollars
- Review all program child/adult ratios, consider, where feasible, when there are three (3) funded staff in a classroom reducing to two (2)
- Where more than the minimum number of days required, reduce to the minimum required by Performance Standards
- Analyze job descriptions and workloads for administrative and support staff, then combine positions where possible
- Examine program delivery models to ensure efficiencies e.g. site-based vs. home-based or combination model

Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten Programs

STATE AND FEDERAL

September 2002

1. Albina OPP/HS
2. Children's Learning Center
3. Clackamas County Children's Commission
4. Clackamas ESD Prekindergarten
5. Columbia-Pacific Head Start
6. COCAAN
7. Early Head Start Family Ctr. of Portland
8. Eastern Oregon University
9. Grand Ronde Head Start
10. Community Action Head Start of Marion-Polk Co.
11. Harney County ESD
12. Head Start of Lane County
13. Kids & Co. of Linn County
14. Klamath Family Head Start
15. Community Services Consortium Head Start (Lincoln Co.)
16. Malheur Co. Child Development Ctr.
17. Mid-Columbia Children's Council, Inc.
18. Mt. Hood Community College
19. Neighborhood House
20. Oregon Child Development Coalition
21. Oregon State University
22. Portland Public Schools
23. Salem Keizer SD OPK
24. Siletz Head Start
25. South Coast Head Start
26. Southern Oregon Head Start
27. Sunshine Children's Center
28. North Central ESD Early Education
29. UCAN Head Start
30. Umatilla HS (Conf. Tribes of)
31. Umatilla-Morrow Head Start
32. Warm Springs Tribal Head Start
33. Community Action Org, Head Start (Washington Co.)
34. Head Start of Yamhill County
35. Coquille Tribal Head Start



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